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DIRECTOR OFFICE
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In re U.S. Patent of:
SASAKI, WATARU et al
Application No. 09/928,483
Filed: August 14, 2001
U.S. Patent No 7,116,439
Issued: October 03, 2006

**NOTIFICATION OF PRIOR ART
CITATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.501**

A citation of prior art under 37 C.F.R. § 1.501 has been filed by the patent owner on October 03, 2006, in the above-identified patent, entitled "SCANNER SYSTEM AND SCANNER DRIVER".

37 C.F.R. § 1.501 Citation of prior art in patent files, states:

- (a) At any time during the period of enforceability of a patent, any person may cite, to the Office in writing, prior art consisting of patents or printed publications which that person states to be pertinent and applicable to the patent and believes to have a bearing on the patentability of any claim of the patent. If the citation is made by the patent owner, the explanation of pertinency and applicability may include an explanation of how the claims differ from the prior art. Such citations shall be entered in the patent file except as set forth in §§ 1.502 and 1.902.
- (b) If the person making the citation wishes his or her identity to be excluded from the patent file and kept confidential, the citation papers must be submitted without any identification of the person making the submission.
- (c) Citation of patents or printed publications by the public in patent files should either:
 - (1) Reflect that a copy of the same has been mailed to the patent owner at the address as provided for in § 1.33(c); or in the event service is not possible
 - (2) Be filed with the Office in duplicate. [emphasis added]

MPEP §2205 [R-2] Content of Prior Art Citation, states in part:...

An explanation is required of how the person submitting the prior art considers it to be pertinent and applicable to the patent, as well as an explanation of why it is believed that the prior art has a bearing on the patentability of any claim of the patent. >The prior art citation must, at a minimum, contain some broad statement of the pertinency and applicability of the art submitted to the patentability of the claims of the patent for which the prior art citation is made...

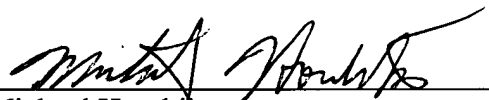
[emphasis added]

MPEP §2206 [R-2] Handling of Prior Art Citation, states in part:

B. Citation Filed by the Patent Owner

If an improper prior art citation under 37 CFR 1.501 is filed by the patent owner prior to an order for reexamination, it should not be entered in the file. The patent owner should be notified of the nonentry, and the citation papers should be returned to the patent owner along with the notification.

Applicant's submission does not include an explanation of the pertinence of the prior art on the patentability of any claim of the patent. The entire submission will be returned to the applicant in accordance with MPEP § 2206.



Michael Horabik
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Communications

Enclosure: submission of prior art under 37 C.F.R. §1.501